

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding Final Office Action mailed July 30, 2010 and the Advisory Action mailed August 25, 2010. The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. Upon entry of this response, claims 7, 10, 13, 16-18, 51-57, 60-62, and 64-65 are pending in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks contained herein. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Claim Numbering

The patent examiner indicates that the numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126, which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. More specifically, the patent examiner indicates that misnumbered claim 60 should be renumbered 59 and the subsequent claims should be renumbered appropriately. In response, the applicant notes that there is no claim numbered 60 and that the claim numbering in the application goes from claim number 59 to claim number 61. The applicant interprets the patent examiner's request to be a request to renumber claim 61 as claim 60 and to renumber the remaining claims accordingly. The applicant has renumbered the claims in this manner and submits that the claims are now in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126. In other words, claims 61-66 have now been renumbered as claims 60-65.

II. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The patent examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maass in view of Green, Beaver, and Spears; and claims 61-63 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maass in view of Green. The applicant respectfully traverses these rejections because the references relied upon by the patent examiner do not teach or suggest each and every limitation required by these claims. In order to advance the prosecution of this case, however, the applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, 5,

and 6. Claims 61-63 have been amended as indicated below in the discussion of allowable subject matter and are now in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth therein.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

The patent examiner indicates that claims 7, 10, 13, 16-18, and 51-57 have been allowed. The applicant thanks the patent examiner for the allowance of these claims.

The patent examiner also indicates that claims 64-66 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, the application has amended claim 61 to include the limitations included in claim 64, which is equivalent to rewriting claim 64 in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims, and amended claim 61 is now in condition for allowance. Claim 64 has been canceled. Claims 62 and 63 depend on amended claim 61 and are now in condition for allowance for the same reason that amended claim 61 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 65 and 66 have been amended to depend, either directly or indirectly, on amended claim 61 and are also now in condition for allowance for the same reason that amended claim 61 is now in condition for allowance. Finally, claims 61-63 have been renumbered as claims 60-62 and claims 65-66 have been renumbered as claims 64-65 as required by the examiner.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office

Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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